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Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 NRC-05 /088 W
---------- 079303
O R 261200Z AUG 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3227
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 4496

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
SUBJ: MBFR: OPTION III: SPC DISCUSSION AUGUST 25

REFS: A) USNATO 4254 DTG 081340Z AUG 75; B) STATE 200439 DTG 222039Z AUG 75; C) STATE 182853 DTF 020039Z AUG 75; D) USNATO 4253 DTG 081333Z AUG 75; E) STATE 152142 DTG 280048Z JUN 75; F) STATE 182851 DTG 020038Z AUG 75

SUMMARY: SPC ON AUGUST 25 HELD ITS FIRST MEETING ON OPTION III AFTER THE TWO WEEK RECESS. ACTING CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT AT THIS MEETING, THE SPC ADDRESS POINTS IN THE DRAFT GUIDANCE AND SUPPLEMENT ON WHICH MEMBERS HAD RECEIVED NEW INSTRUCTIONS. FRG REP SAID FRG COULD GIVE UP THE PHRASES IN PARA 1 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE THAT WITH-DRAWN FORCES WOULD RETURN "TO THE US" AND "TO THE USSR" IF THE GUIDANCE CLEARLY PROVIDED IN SOME OTHER WAY THAT SOVIET TROOPS COULD NOT BE SENT TO HUNGARY. THE WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ENABLING US TO ACCEPT THESE TWO PHRASES WAS TIMELY, SINCE FRG ALTERNATIVE
SECRET

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WOULD OTHER WISE HAVE
LAUNCHED A NON-CIRCUMVENTION DISCUSSION WHICH CULD HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY DELAYED ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF OPTION III. ITALY AGREED TO DROP ITS BRACKETS AROUND PARA 4 OF THE DRAFT

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SUPPLEMENT, WHICH STATES THE CONTENT OF THE US NUCLEAR
REDUCTION PACKAGED, ON GROUNDS THAT ITALY NOW AGREES THAT THE
SHAPE ASSESSMENT AND MC COMMENT HAVE ESTABLISHED THE ACCEPTABILITY
OF THIS PACKAGE. UK REP INDICATED TO US PRAVATELY THAT UK IS
NOW MOVING TOWARD A NON-NUMERIC DEFINITION OF THE COMMON
CEILING, BUT DID NOT KNOW WHEN THE UK MIGHT BE IN A POSITION
TO INTRODUCE NEW LANGUAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. DRAFT GUIDANCE. REFERENCES IN THE ENSUING PARAGRAPHS TO
THE DRAFT GUIDANCE ARE TO THE TEXT TRANSMITTED IN REF A.

2. PARA 1, FIRST TIC. FRG REP (CITRON) SAID BONN WISHED TO
SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING SOLUTION TO THE "MIGHT" VERSUS "WOULD"
PROBLEM. FRG WOULD ADD AT THE END OF THE SIRST SENTENCE IN THAT
TIC "AND TO BE SET AT APPROXIMATELY 700,000 SOLDIERS ON EACH
SIDE". THE LAST SENTENCE IN THAT TIC WOULD BE ELIMINATED. HE
SAID FRG IS OPEN TO IDEAS ON MODIFICATION OF THE ABOVE QUOTED
PHRASE IN A WAY WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE SPC. US REP
(MOORE) SAID THAT THE QUOTED PHRASE WOULD STILL INVOLVE AGREEMENT
IN PHASE I ON A SPECIFIC NUMBER FOR THE COMMON CEILING TO BE
REACHED IN PHASE II, AND THUS WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE US.
HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS TIC CLAIMS TO BE A RESTATEMENT OF THE
ALLIED POSITION. HE THOUGHT THAT ON THIS BASIS THERE HAD BEEN
A MOVEMENT PRIOR TO THE MID-AUGUST RECESS TOWARD ACCEPTANCE
OF "MIGHT" IN THIS TIC. UK REP (BAILES) SAID THAT UK COULD
PROBABLY GO WITH "MIGHT" IN THIS TIC.

3. PARA 1, SECOND AND THIRD TICS. FRG REP SAID FRG COULD
AGREE TO GIVE UP THE PHRASES THAT WITHDRAWN FORCES WOULD RETURN
"TO THE US" AND "TO THE USSR", BUT IN THAT CASE WOULD INSIST
THAT THE GUIDANCE CLEARLY PROVIDE THAT SOVIET TROOPS COULD NOT
BE SENT TO HUNGARY. US REP, EMPHASIZING US DESIRE TO BE
FLEXIBLE AND MAKE COMPROMISES WHERE POSSIBLE, AGREED TO REMOVAL
OF THE BRACKETS AROUND "TO THE US" AND "TO THE USSR". SPC
AGREED. (COMMENT: THE GUIDANCE IN PARA 2, REF B, PROVIDING
FOR REMOVAL OF THESE BRACKETS WAS TIMELY, SINCE FRG PROPOSAL
ON HUNGAR, IF IT HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BY CAPITALS, WOULD HAVE
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SPECIFICALLY INTROUDUCED THE NON-CIRCUMVENTION QUESTION INTO DELAYED
ALLIED DELIBERATIONS.)

4. PARA 1, FINAL TIC. UK REP TOLD US PROVATELY THAT UK IS
MOVING TOWARD A NON-NUMERIC REFERENCE TO THE COMMON CEILING IN
THIS PARAGRAPH. SHE DID NOT KNOW WHEN UK MIGHT BE IN A POSITION
TO INTRODUCE NEW LANGUAGE.

5. PARA 3. FRG REP REAFFIRMED FRG SUPPORT FOR THE US PHRASE
THAT AHG SHOULD PUT FORWARD THE PROPOSALS "AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE",
BUT BELGIAN REP BURNY) REAFFIRMED BELGIAN DESIRE FOR
BRACKETS AROUND THIS PHRASE. RE "TRADE" VERSUS "OFFER", THE
ACTING CHAIRMAN (KULLHAM) SUGGESTED "EXCHANGE" AS AN ALTERNATIVE.

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THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF THIS SUGGESTION. (COMMENT: WE DOUBT
THAT SPC MEMBERS WHO SUPPORTED "OFFER"WILL NOW ACCEPT "EXCHANGE",
SINCE IT MEANS THE SAME THING AS "TRADE". IF THIS IS THE CASE WE
SHALL USE THE GUIDANCE IN PARA 3, REF B AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME).

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---------- 079790
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INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA
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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 4496

6. PARA 3, "PLUS" ADD-ON. ITALIAN REP (SPINELLI) SAID ITALY
COULD ACCEPT THIS PARAGRAPH WITH THE ELIMINATION OF THE
BRACKETED CONCLUDING PHRASE. OPPOSTION TO THE "PLUS" ADD-ON.
HE RECALLED THE US VIEW THAT THE CONCERN REPRESENTED BY THE "PLUS"
ADD-ON COULD BE MET BY THE LAST PHRASE IN PARA 3 (THAT OPTION III
IS "NOT A STEP TOWARD FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN NUCLEAR OR AIR
FORCES OR IN EQUIPMENT"), AND BY SAYING SOMETHING ON THIS
POINT IN THE SUPPLEMENT. HE NOTED THAT BELGIUM, THE AUTHOR
OF THE "PLUS" ADD-ON, HAD WITHDRAWN IT. ACTING CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED
THAT ONE WAY OF RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM MIGHT BE TO DELETE THE
"PLUS" ADD-ON, AND ADD AT THE END OF THE LAST SENTENCE IN
PARA 3 "IN EITHER PHASE". FRG REP SAID THAT FRG SEEMED TO
BE ALONE IN ITS INSISTENCE ON THE "PLUS" ADD-ON, AND HE
WOULD REPORT THIS TO BONN, ALONG WITH THE ACTING CHAIRMAN'S
SUGGESTION.

7. PARAS 4-9. NETHERLANDS REP (BUWALDA) SAID THAT THE
DUTCH BRACKETS (SUPPORTED BY OTHERS) AROUND THE
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PHRASE "IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO UNDERMINE THE BASIS OF
THE AGREEMENT" IN PARA 5 OF THE US "PLUS EITHER" VERSION
SIMPLY REPRESENTED DUTCH INTEREST IN FURTHER CLARIFI-
CATION ON THE MEANING OF THIS PHRASE. ITALIAN REP REITERATED
ITALIAN WISH TO SEE THIS PHRASE DELETED. US REP REVIEWED
THE US POSITION ON THE BASIS OF PARA 43 OF THE "US VIEWS"
PAPER.

8. UK REP SAID LONDON HAD AGAIN STATED ITS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE
US "EITHER" AND "PLUS EITHER" VERSIONS OF PARAGRAPHS 4-9.
FRG REP SAID FRG CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE ALTERNATIVE "OR " VERSION.
HE SAID BONN WAS INTERESTED IN KNOWING THE VIEWS OF OTHER
COUNTRIES. NETHERALNDS REP SAID THE NETHERLANDS HAS INTELLECTUAL
SYMPATHY WITH THE CONCLUDING BELGIAN "OR" VERSION OF THESE
PARAGRAPHS, BUT IN CHOOSING BETWEEN THE US AND FRG VERSIONS OF
THESE PARAGRAPHS, THE HAGUE WOULD PREFER THE US VERSION. ITALINA
REP SAID ROME ALSO HAS INTELLECTUAL SYMPATHY FOR BELGIAN APPROACH,
BUT IN CHOOSING BRTWEEN US AND FRG VERSIONS, WOULD PREFER
THE FRG VERSION. NEITHER DUTHC NOR ITALINA REP EXPLAINED REASIONS
FOR THEIR CHOICE. BELGIAN REP SAID BELGIUM CONTINUES TO
SUPPORT ITS CONCLUDING "OR " VERSION. US REP ASKED IF THERE
WERE ANY BELGIAN COMMENT YET ON THE US VIEWS ON THE BELGIAN
POSITION STATED AND CIRCULATED AT THE AUGUST 4 SPC MEETING
(PARAS 1.A.-C., REF C). BELGIAN REP SAID HE EXPECTED
COMMENT FROM HIS AUTHORITIES SOON.

9. DRAFT SUPPLEMENT. REFERENCES IN THE ENSUING PARAGRAPHS
TO THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENT ARE TO THE TEXT TRANSMITTED IN REF D.

10. PARA 3, "OR" VERSION. FRG REP SAID THAT BONN NOW REGARDS
THE FIRST THREE TICS IN THE "OR " VERSION AS ALTERNATIVES TO
THE FIFTH TIC, AND FRG INTENDED TO INTRODUCE NEW LANGUAGE
SOON.

11. PARA 4. ITALIAN REP SAID ITALY COULD NOW AGREE TO REMOVE
THE BRACKETS AROUND PARA 4, WHICH STATES THE CONTENT OF THE
US NUCLEAR REDUCTION PACKAGE. ITALIAN AUTHORITIESAGREE THAT THE SHAPE
ASSESSMENT AND MC COMMENT HAVE ESTABLISHED THE ACCEPTABILITY
OF THIS PACKAGE.

12. PARA 5. MC REP (BRANSON) STATED THAT SHAPE NOW HAD
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RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE FIRST SENTENCE IN PARA 5, BUT WAS
NOT YET PREPARED TO STATE WHAT THESE RESERVATIONS ARE.
SHAPE HOPES TO CLARIFY ITS VIEW BY SEPTEMBER 4.

13. PARA 8. UK REP NOTED THAT UNDER EXISTING ALLIED POSI-
THE US WOULD BE PERMITTED TO STORE EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED
WITH THE WITHDRAWN US FORCES. SHE SAID LONDON WONDERED
IF PARA 8 WAS CLEAR ENOUGH THAT THIS ASPECT OF THE ALLIED

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POSITION WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED. US REP REPLIED THAT THE KEY PHRASE HERE WAS THAT US AND SOVIET MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT "SPECIFIED FOR REDUCTION" SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN TO HOMELANDS. THUS, EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH US FORCES WHICH IS NOT SPECIFIED FOR REDUCTION COULD REMAIN IN PLACE.

14. PARA 8 (BIS). UK REP ASKED US REP TO REVIEW THE REASONS FOR US OPPOSITION TO THE UK PARA 8 (BIS). US REP NOTED THAT THE US HAD ACCEPTED THE UK SUGGESTION THAT PARA 9 OF THE ORIGINAL US DRAFT GUIDANCE BE MOVED UP TO PARA 6, AND THAT THE ORIGINAL US PARAS 6, 7 AND 8 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE BECOME THE PRESENT PARAS 7, 8 AND 9 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE. THIS REORDERING IS REFLECTED IN THE US "PLUS EITHER" VERSION OF THESE PARAS IN THE GUIDANCE. THE FURTHER NOTED THE US WILLINGNESS NOT TO OVERLY STRESS IN OUR PRESENTATION TO THE EAST ANY PARTICULAR CEILINGS LINKAGES (PARA 6, REF E). HOWEVER, THE UK PARA 8 (BIS) WOULD REQUIRE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS ACUTALLY TO MAINTAIN A RIGID DISTINCTION FOR EXAMPLE, BETWEEN CEILINGS ON SOVIET TANKS AND CEILINGS ON
US NUCLEAR ELEMENTS. US REP THEN STATED AGAIN THE CONTENT OF PARA 1 A, REF F. UK REP LATER TOLD US PROVATELY THAT SHE EXPECTS LONDON WILL MODIFY ITS POSITION ON PARA 8 (BIS).

15. UK REP SUGGESTED THAT AT THE THURSDAY, AUGUST 28 SPC MEETING, SPC MEMBERS MAY WISH TO REAISE ANY MBFR SUBJECTS OTHER THAN OPTION III ON WHICH THEY THINK THE SPC SHOULD START WORK ON GUIDANCE TO AHG.

16. ACTION REQUESTED: IF POSSIBLE IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 28:

A. RE THE "PLUS" ADD-ON TO PARA 3 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE
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(SEE PARA 6 ABOVE), CAN WASHINGTON ACCEPT THE ACTING CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION, IF FRG AGREES TO DELETE THE "PLUS" ADD-ON ON THAT BASIS, OR DOES WASHINGTON WISH TO MAINTAIN THE POSITION THAT THE PRESENT LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 3 AND WHATEVER WE SAY IN THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENT ON THIS POINT WILL BE ADEQUATE?

B. ARE THERE ANY SUBJECTS OTHER THAN OPTION III ON WHICH WASHINGTON BELIEVES SPC SHOULD START WORK ON GUIDANCE TO AHG? WE DOUBT THAT SPC WILL WISH TO GET VERY FAR INTO GUIDANCE ON DEFINITION OF FORCES UNTIL COMPLETION OF MBFR WORKING GROUP MILITARY-TECHNICAL PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT. THE US WILL WISH TO RAISE AGAIN AT SOME POINT ITS PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES, ON WHICH SPC TEMPORARILY DEFERRED WORK, BUT WE BELIEVE SPC SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON OPTION III FOR THE TIME BEING.BRUCE

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BONN
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